

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 PM-04 SAM-01 NSC-05 OPR-02 PA-01

PRS-01 SS-15 SY-05 A-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 /047 W

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O P 131843Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4463

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 4383

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMANN FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SHLAUDEMANN, HARRY W.)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMANN

REF: WEISSMAN/BARTCH TELECONS OF SEPT 10 AND 13

1. ARE DELIGHTED YOU WILL VISIT HONDURAS SEPTEMBER 17 TO 18. DEFENSE ATTACHE WILL PICK YOU UP IN GUATEMALA FIRDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 17, AND FLY YOU TO TEGUCIGALPA, AND WILL TAKE YOU TO MANAGUA THE FOLLOWING MORNING. BECAUSE TEGUCIGALPA AIRPORT RUNWAYS ARE CLOSED WEEKDAYS BETWEEN 1000 AND 1400 HOURS, YOU WILL HAVE TO DEPART FROM GUATEMALA BY 0900 AT THE LATEST, AND PREFERABLY BY 0800. RUNWAYS CLOSE ON SATURAYS AT 0900, SO YOU WILL HAVE TO TAKE OFF FOR MANAGUA BEFORE 0900. DEFENSE ATTACHE WILL ALSO PROVIDE ONWARD TRANSPORTATION TO SAN JOSE SEPTEMBER 19, AND TO SAN SALVADOR SEPTEMBER 21. AIRCRAFT IS NEW C-12 BEECHCRAFT SUPER KING AIR. AIRCRAFT COMMANDER IS COL. DELMORE L. FESSENDEN, PILOT CAPT. THOMAS A. HARRIS, AND FLIGHT MECHANIC S/SGT. LUIS A. CARRASQUILLO. AIRCRAFT AND CREW PLAN TO ARRIVE GUATEMALA 0900 SEPTEMBER 16. WITH YOUR APPROVAL, AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE OTHER POSTS INCLUDED IN YOUR ITINERARY, THE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES ARE AS
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FOLLOWS:

DEPART GUATEMALA 17 SEPT. 0800
ARRIVE TEGUCIGALPA 17 SEPT. 0900
DEPART TEGUCIGALPA 18 SEPT. 0845
ARRIVE MANAGUA 18 SEPT. 0915
DEPART MANAGUA 19 SEPT. 0900
ARRIVE SAN JOSE 19 SEPT. 0950
DEPART SAN JOSE 21 SEPT. 0900
ARRIVE SAN SALVADOR 21 SEPT. 1030

2. WE ARE INVITING LOCAL LABOR LEADERS AND BUSINESSMEN FROM SAN PEDRO SULA AREA TO JOIN THOSE WHO ARE BASED IN TEGUCIGALPA TO MEET WITH YOU IN EMBASSY FRIDAY AFTERNOON. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO LIMIT ATTENDANCE AT EACH MEETING TO ABOUT TWENTY, INCLUDING EMBASSY PERSONNEL. IN VIEW OF YOUR LIMITED TIME HERE, I BELIEVE A BRIEF, INFORMAL MEETING WITH THE COUNTRY TEAM FRIDAY MORNING WOULD BE PREFERRED TO A MORE FORMAL BRIEFING. THERE ARE THIRTEEN MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM, AND ANYTHING MORE THAN THE MOST SUPERFICIAL KIND OF BRIEFING WOULD CONSUME AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF YOUR TIME. COUNTRY TEAM MEMBERS WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSIONS OF MATTERS IN WHICH YOU ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED, AND LESLIE AND I PLAN TO INVITE THE COUNTRY TEAM AND THEIR WIVES TO AN INFORMAL BUFFET IN YOUR HONOR FRIDAY EVENING. ALSO IN VIEW OF TIME LIMITATIONS, I DO NOT THINK IT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO MEET WITH ALL U.S. AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES OF THE MISSION, UNLESS YOU PARTICULARLY WISH TO DO SO. I RECOMMEND A SMALL PRESS CONFERENCE, AT THE CHANCERY OR RESIDENCE, WITH RADIO AND TELEVISION COVERAGE INCLUDED, TO LAST ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES. THIS CAN BE SCHEDULED AFTER YOUR MEETINGS WITH LABOR AND BUSINESS MEN LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AND IT WILL BE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN EITHER AN ARRIVAL OR DEPARTURE STATEMENT. THIS WILL NOT PREVENT INDIVIDUAL NEWSMEN FROM SEEKING TO TALK ABOUT YOUR VISIT, U.S. POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA, AND ANY OTHER SUBJECTS YOU WISH TO RAISE.

3. WE HAVE REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS FOR YOU TO CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHIEF OF STATE, PREFERABLY ON FRIDAY MORNING. IF TIMING PERMITS, WE PLAN A LUNCH AT THE RESIDENCE OR DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT, WITH ABOUT 24 GUESTS, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER KEY OFFICIALS. LESLIE AND I HOPE
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YOU WILL ACCEPT OUR INVITATION TO BE OUR GUEST AT DCM'S RESIDENCE DURING YOUR STAY HERE.

4. IT WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE FOR YOU TO VISIT SAN PEDRO SULA UNLESS YOU WERE PREPARED TO REMAIN THERE OVERNIGHT IN A HOTEL, BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE USE OF THE RUNWAYS AT TEGUCIGALPA AIRPORT. RUNWAYS ARE OPEN IN THE AFTERNOON FOR TAKEOFFS AND LANDINGS ONLY FROM 1400 TO

1700. IF YOU WERE TO TAKE OFF FROM TEGUCIGALPA PROMPTLY AT 1400, YOU WOULD NOT ARRIVE DOWNTOWN SAN PEDRO SULA UNTIL 1500. YOU WOULD HAVE TO TAKE OFF AT 1630 AT THE LATEST FOR THE RETURN FLIGHT TO TEGUCIGALPA, AND THAT WOULD GIVE YOU ONLY ABOUT AN HOUR IN SAN PEDRO SULA. WE HAVE NO U.S. GOVERNMENT INSTALLATION IN SAN PEDRO SULA (EXCEPT THE BINATIONAL CENTER, HEADED BY A LOCAL EMPLOYEE), AND NO SECURE CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATIONS.

5. REMAINING IN TEGUCIGALPA WILL PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST YOUR SCHEDULE TO THE TIMES HONDURAN OFFICIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH YOU, AND WILL PERMIT YOU TO ACCEPT ANY INVITATION THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT MAY EXTEND TO LUNCH, RECEPTION, OR DINNER IN YOUR HONOR. A FUNCTION OF THIS KIND WOULD NORMALLY BE GIVEN IN HONOR OF A VISITING OFFICIAL OF YOUR RANK AND IMPORTANCE, BUT THE LATE NOTICE OF YOUR VISIT, ITS BRIEF DURATION, AND THE FACT THAT IT WILL COINCIDE WITH NUMEROUS OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED THIS WEEK IN CONNECTION WITH THE HONDURAN NATIONAL DAY, MAY MAKE THIS DIFFICULT. ON SEPTEMBER 17, THERE IS A MORNING GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE MILITARY AVIATION SCHOOL, AN EVENING RECEPTION BY THE HONDURAN AIR FORCE, AND AN EVENING RECEPTION BY THE VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR IN HONOR OF VISITING FAC COMMANDING GENERAL PEREZ MADURO. TOP HONDURAN OFFICIALS, BUSINESSMEN, AND OTHERS HAVE ALREADY ACCEPTED INVITATIONS TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE OF THESE FUNCTIONS.

6. SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE CHIEF OF STATE, AND DEPENDING ON WHETHER OR NOT THE GOH OFFERS AN OFFICIAL FUNCTION IN YOUR HONOR, THE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE PROGRAM IS SUGGESTED FOR YOUR APPROVAL: 0800-DEPART FROM GUATEMALA; 0900 - ARRIVE IN TEGUCIGALPA; 0930-INFORMAL MEETING WITH COUNTRY TEAM 1015 - CALL ON FOREIGN
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MINISTER; 1100 -CALL ON CHIEF OF STATE; 1200 -LUNCH AT RESIDENCE OR DOWNTOWN RESTAURANT; 1500 - MEETING WITH BUSINESSMEN; 1630 - MEETING WITH LABOR LEADERS; 1745 - PRESS CONFERENCE; 1930- INFORMAL BUFFET AT DCM'S RESIDENCE, WITH COUNTRY TEAM AND WIVES.

7. IN VIEW OF THE SHORT TIME REMAINING BEFORE YOUR VISIT AND THE DIFFICULTY WE SHALL HAVE IN CONTACTING HONDURAN OFFICIALS ON SEPTEMBER 15, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED PROGRAM AND REPLY (BY NIACI IMMEDIATE OR TELEPHONE CALL) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
BARTCH

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NNN

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